24th August 1925]

## Depressed Classes.

*The amelioration of the depressed classes.*

*338 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether any amount has been given or set apart out of the recent remission of about 126 lakhs of rupees from the Government of India for the amelioration of the depressed classes; and

(b) all the schemes that are before the Government or before the Commissioner of Labour for the amelioration of the depressed classes?

A.—(a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) The hon. Member is referred to G.O. No. 3348, dated the 27th April 1924, which has been placed on the Editors' Table for an account of the measures taken for the amelioration of the condition of the depressed classes. These measures are continued in the current year.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" With reference to the answer given in clause (a), I wish to know why the Government have not set apart at least a certain percentage for the amelioration of the depressed classes out of the total remission of 126 lakhs of rupees."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I am unable to give any reason."

Mr. M. RATNASWAMI :—" May I ask whether the hon. Minister is going to absorb all the remitted amount or whether any special provision is going to be made for the amelioration of the depressed classes."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I know whether any schemes were prepared and put before the Cabinet?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I am sorry I am unable to say what has happened in the Cabinet."

## Forests.

*The accounts of the Russellkonda Saw Mills.*

*339 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the total amount of bad and doubtful debts so far written off the accounts of the Russellkonda Saw Mills after they were handed over to Messrs. Parry & Co., as managing agents, together with the names of the defaulters;

(b) whether, according to the agreement entered into by the firm, all sales are at the risk of the managing agents who are responsible for the payments of the purchasing members to the Government and the Secretary is not in any way concerned with the default of the buyers or with any dispute as to the quantity or the quality of the timber; and

(c) whether the managing agents, Messrs. Parry & Co., have made good the losses due to the insolvency of their customers, and if so, to what extent?